THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). there is no project proposal on the setting up of a biotechnology park forwarded by the Government of Kerala. However an action plan on Ernakulam as a Biotechnology district has been under examination by a high level expert committee of the State Government. The final project document has not yet been received.

Joint Venture with Indonesia to produce Palm Oil

3537. KUMAR PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up joint ventures with Indonesea to produce palm oil;

(b) if so, the name of the places identified for setting up palm oil production units; and

(c) the cost of those units each and site selected for the location of each of those units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Government Accommodation to Reporters

3538. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reporters accredited by the Press Information Bureau who have been allotted Government accommodation;

(b) the number of residential accommodation in the reporters pool; and

(c) whether the number of residential accommodation in the pool is proposed to be increased keeping in view the increasing number of reporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Ninety-three accredited Press Correspondents and News Cameramen have been allotted Government accommodation from the existing Press Pool.

(b) and (c). The allotment under the Press Pool were frozen till May, '90 when it was decided to revive and increase the number of units in the Press Pool from 110 to 120 units. Guidelines for allotment were also under review and have been recently finalised. Allotments for the increased number will commence soon.

[*English*]

Growth of Small Scale Industries

3539. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the hurdles faced by the Small Scale Industries in their growth perspectives throughout the Seventh Plan period;

(b) the growth rate of Small Scale Industries in the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) the growth rate to Small Scale Industries expected in the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Some of the problems faced

by the Small Scale Industries in their growth perspectives during the Seventh Five Year Plan period were: paucity of adequate and timely credit, marketing problems, management deficiencies, shortage of critical raw materials, both indigenous and imported, technological obsolescence, labour problems, delay in the payment of dues against supplies made to large scale units, frequent power cuts/trippings; etc.

(b) The estimated annual everage rate of growth of small scale industries during the Seventh Five Yar Plan period (1985-90) was 12.74%.

(c) The annual average rate of growth of small scale industries during the Eighth Five Year Plan period (1992-97) is estimated at 7.86%.

Manufacture of Foreign Brand Liquor

3540. SHRI D. PANDIAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of units manufacturing Indian made foreign brand liquor in the country;

(b) the total number of applications pending with the Union Government seeking licences for manufacture of beer; and

(c) the total number of applications recommended by the Ministry of Food Processing to the Ministry of Industry during the last three years?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) A total number of 37 units are engaged in the manufacture of India made foreign liquor in the organised sector.

(b) The number of applications seeking licences for manufacture of beer, under consideration of the Union Government, are 865.

(c) During last three years, 30 applications relating to Indian made foreign brand liquor have been recommended for grant of Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences by the Ministry of Food Processing to the Ministry of Industry.

Coal Stockyard In Karnataka

3541. SHRI C. MADE GOWADA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to open Coal stockyards in Karnataka during 1992; and

(b) if so, the places selected thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). According to the current stockyard policy, responsibility for setting up and managing new stockyards rests with the respective State Governments. Coal companies will offer coal for despatch to these stockyards in accordance with the sponsorship provided by the State Government.

Increasing of Price of DDA Flats

3542. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has recently increased the cost of the flats without intimating the person in whose name allotment had already been made;

(b) if so, the reasons and justification thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to